

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-18 are presently pending in this application, Claim 2 having been canceled, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 8 having been amended and Claim 18 having been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 09-089477 (hereinafter “JP ‘477”) in view of WO 02/63223 (hereinafter “WO ‘223”). However, Claims 2-17 were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

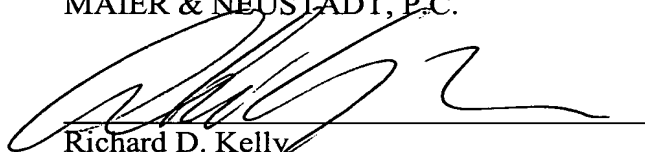
First, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 2-17 include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter recited in Claim 2. In addition, Claims 3, 4 and 8 have been amended for formality and proper dependency. Furthermore, Claim 18 has been newly added herein. Claim 18 recites “a channel forming body interposed between the first and second flat plates, the channel forming body comprising two side bars extending laterally and disposed between the first and second flat plates at opposite side edges of the first and second flat plates, an intermediate bar extending laterally and disposed between and spaced apart from the two side bars, two heat transfer area increasing portions interconnecting the intermediate bar and the side bars, and plural end bars connecting end portions of the side bars and intermediate bar at one end of the first and second flat plates, wherein the intermediate bar forms two channels extending laterally and has a cut out portion communicating the two channels with each other, the heat transfer area increasing portions have cut out portions, respectively, adjacent to the end bars, the first and second flat plates have holes formed adjacent to the end bars in opposite sides of the intermediate bar and for communicating the two channels with the

outside, the side bars of the channel forming body provide side wall portions of a peripheral wall which connects peripheral edges of the first and second flat plates, the end bars of the channel forming body provide a first end wall portion of the peripheral wall, and the first and second flat plates have bent portions, respectively, lapping over to each other and providing a second end wall of the peripheral wall at an opposite end of the first end wall” and thus is believed to include subject matter similar to what is recited in Claim 2. Thus, no new matter is believed to be added thereby, and Claim 18 is believed to be allowable along with Claims 1-17. If, however, the Examiner disagrees with any of the amendments presented above, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive a mutually agreeable solution and expedite the prosecution of this application.

In view of the amendments presented above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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